

**North Bay Regional Center  
Board of Directors'  
Cultural and Linguistic Competency Committee (CLCC) meeting  
December 19, 2024 at 12 PM**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Introduction**
- III. Review of Minutes of November 21, 2024**
- IV. Land Acknowledgement**
- V. Covenant for Brave Space**
- VI. CLC Updates**
  - a. NBRC Staff**
- VII. Review and Discussion of outstanding Board Policies:**
  - a. Person-Centered Policy**
  - b. Circle of Support Policy**
  - c. Accessibility of Facilities Policy**
  - d. Integrated Programs Policy**
- VIII. Meeting Adjourned**

**The next CLCC meeting is on January 16, 2025 at 12:00 PM**

**North Bay Regional Center Board of Directors'**  
**Cultural and Linguistic Competency Committee (CLCC) Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 12:00 PM**  
**Via Zoom**

**Board Members Present:** Rosemarie Pérez, Board Member and CLCC Chair  
Sara Speck, Board Vice President

**NBRC Staff Present:** Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director  
Mariam Guirguis, Executive Assistant & Compliance Specialist  
Abigail Andrade, Community Outreach and Engagement Specialist  
Geri Audette, Training & Communications Specialist  
Jessica Hetherington, Generic Resource Specialist  
Maria Marino, Emergency Mgmt. & Facilities Coordinator

**Guests:** Derek Hearhtower, Community Member  
Taylor Berry, 24-Hour Care, VAC Representative

## **Minutes**

### **I. Call to Order**

*Rosemarie Pérez, Board Member and CLCC Chair*, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM and welcomed the Committee members and attendees for joining the meeting.

### **II. Introductions**

The Committee members and attendees introduced themselves.

### **III. Review of Minutes**

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the September 19, 2024 meeting looked accurate.

### **IV. Land Acknowledgement**

*Abigail Andrade, Community Outreach and Engagement Specialist*, read the Land Acknowledgement.

### **V. Covenant for Brave Space**

*Jessica Hetherington, Generic Resource Specialist*, read the Covenant for Brave Space before moving onto the next agenda item.

### **VI. CLC Updates**

#### **a. NBRC Staff**

- *Abigail Andrade, Community Outreach and Engagement Specialist*, provided 2024 LACC Outreach Highlights as follows:

- ❖ 4 cultural event resource fairs were hosted: Black History Month, Women’s History Month, You Belong Summer Resource Fair & 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trunk-or-Treat.
- ❖ The Reunion Symposium was held in Sonoma County.
- ❖ Established the Cultural Connections Committee that includes NBRC staff, CBO’s, NBRC vendors and community members to help in planning NBRC cultural events.
- ❖ Hosted outreach events that included 1908 individuals.
- ❖ Hosted 15 NBRC informational sessions for local CBO’s.
- ❖ Hosted 2 Community Conversations to present POS expenditure data.
- ❖ Held 12 focus group workshops to discuss IPP 101, Relationships Decoded, ILS/SLS and SDP 101 with a total of 82 participants.
- ❖ We attended 21 community outreach events.
- ❖ We reached 613 community members.

## **VII. Review and Discussion of outstanding Board Policies**

### **a. Circle of Support Policy (No. 3)**

- The Team agreed to start with the policy’s purpose and integrate relevant content from the background into the policy.
- The Team acknowledged that the current version was disjointed and needed significant changes.
- The Team discussed the concept of a “circle of support” in relation to the regional center’s role. They debated whether the regional center should be seen as providing or encouraging the circle of support.
- *Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director*, emphasized the importance of the individual driving the process, with the system following their lead.
- The Team agreed that the regional center should honor the individual’s choices regarding their circle of support, acknowledging that the circle’s function may vary depending on the individual’s needs.
- The Team also considered changing the policy’s focus from a “circle of support” to a “person-centered” approach, emphasizing the individual’s autonomy and decision-making power. The Team agreed to continue refining the policy language to better reflect these principles.
- The Team agreed that a person-centered policy should be developed, which would be applicable across all age groups. However, they also recognized the need for a separate policy specifically addressing the concept of a “circle of support”, which would change with different age groups and the varying levels of support required by individuals.
- The Team decided to work on these policies simultaneously, with the person-centered policy potentially coming first.
- The Team also considered involving the Plan Advisory Committee in the process.
- *Jessica Hetherington, Generic Resource Specialist*, reported that she had taken 347 referrals for different kinds of services since starting her position as Generic Resource Specialist in June 2024.
- Gabriel and Jessica discussed the challenges faced by community members in accessing medical resources.
- *Jessica Hetherington, Generic Resource Specialist*, explained her role in assisting clients, including providing information on how to apply for Medi-Cal and offering further assistance when needed.
- *Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director*, acknowledged the importance of Jessica’s work and the need to support people we serve to access generic resources.

- *Jessica Hetherington, Generic Resources Specialist*, suggested that having a dedicated person to handle applications could be beneficial but emphasized the importance of encouraging clients to advocate for themselves.
- The Team discussed the purpose of the policy and decided that Gabriel and Geri will work on separating the “Person-Centered Policy” from the “Circle of Support Policy” to focus on the individual being served as the center of support and their expertise in their own experience. They will share the updated draft in the next meeting.

**b. Accessibility of Facilities Policy (No. 14)**

- The Team discussed the need for a policy on accessibility, with a focus on making public meetings accessible.
- *Jessica Hetherington, Generic Resources Specialist*, suggested that the policy should comply with existing accessibility rules and their commitment to making public meetings accessible.
- Maria Marino, Emergency Management & Facilities Coordinator, agreed and noted that their facilities already comply with California’s accessibility codes.
- *Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director*, emphasized the need for a concrete plan and budget “for the welcoming spaces project” to Gabriel emphasized the need for a concrete plan and budget, if we want to make any significant changes to our buildings, to make them more welcoming.
- *Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director* and *Geri Audette, Training & Communications Specialist*, will work on a generic statement of policy on accessibility, including compliance with ADA regulations and ensuring all public meetings are accessible.

**c. Integrated Programs Policy (No. 16)**

- The Committee will continue discussion in the next meeting to determine if the policy will be utilized.

**VIII. Meeting Adjourned**

*Rosemarie Pérez, Board Member and CLCC Chair*, adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.

**The next CLCC meeting will be held on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 12:00 PM.**